

**The United Church of Christ, Congregational  
Burlington, MA**

**Second Sunday of Easter**

*"We gather for worship, study, planning and mission to celebrate the life, teachings, death and living presence of Jesus Christ which frees us to love boldly and to serve gladly as God would want us to do."*

**April 12, 2026**

**10:30am**

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***We believe God calls us to love unconditionally, following the example of Jesus Christ.***

***Recognizing that all people are equal in the sight of God, we seek to be an inclusive and respectful community for persons of every color, age, sexual orientation, gender, ability and economic means.***

***In our calling to express the love and welcome of Christ, we affirm the dignity and worth of every person, and declare ourselves to be an Open and Affirming congregation.***

***We strive to respond to the needs of our town and world with practical deeds of love.***

***We welcome individuals and families of every configuration into the full life and ministry of this church, and invite you to join us on our faith journey!***

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**\*Please rise in body or spirit.**

## Gathering....

**Musical Prelude** Es ist das Heil uns kommen her – Unknown Composer  
Andrew Moore

### Welcome & Announcements

#### \*Morning Psalm - Based on Psalm 16

One: I bless the Lord, who gives me counsel; I keep the Lord always before me;

**All: because God is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.**

One: Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also rests secure.

**All: For you do not give me up or let your faithful one see the Pit.**

One: You show me the path of life.

**All: In your presence there is fullness of joy.**

\*Opening Hymn                      These Things Did Thomas Count                      NCH #254

### Sharing of Joys and Concerns

### Passing the Peace

#### Sacrament of Baptism for

**Nathaniel Lawrence Fay**

Born May 21, 2025

Son of Sarah and Randall Fay

Grandson of James and Leigh Keenan and Al and Gail Fay

Godson of Emily O'Leary and Josh MacLeod

#### Presentation of the Water for Baptism

One: Brothers, sisters, and siblings in Christ, we gather now to celebrate the gift of grace in the sacrament of baptism.

**All: There is one body and one Spirit. There is one hope in God's call to us. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God, Creator of us all.**

One: Baptism is the sacrament through which we are united with Jesus Christ, and given part in Christ's ministry of reconciliation. In baptism God works in us the power of forgiveness and the renewal of the Spirit, and the knowledge of the call to be Christ's disciples always.

**All: This is the water of baptism. Out of this water we rise with new life, forgiven of sin and one in Christ, members of Christ's body.**

Responsive Scripture Reading - Mark 10:13-16

One: People were bringing children to Jesus so that he would bless them. But the disciples scolded them. When Jesus saw this, he grew angry and said to them:

**All: "Let the children come to me, do not hinder them; for to such belongs the realm of God. Truly I say to you, whoever does not receive the realm of God like a child shall not enter it."**

One: And Jesus took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands upon them.

Invitation to the Family

Questions and Affirmations

Congregational Assent

One: Jesus calls us to make disciples of others, and to offer them the gift of grace in baptism. On behalf of the Christian church in every place, do you who witness and celebrate this sacrament, promise your love, support, and care to Nathaniel as he lives and grows in Christ?

**People: We promise our love, support and care.**

Prayer of Baptism

One: We give you thanks, O Holy One, mother and father of all the faithful for this your child and for the grace acknowledged here today in water and the Holy Spirit.

**All: Gracious and loving God, we pray that you bless Nathaniel with strength for life's journey, courage in the face of injustice, compassion at the sight of oppression, the joy of faith, the freedom of love, and the hope of new life; through Jesus Christ, who makes us one. Amen.**

\***Devotional Hymn**

We Live by Faith and not by Sight

NCH #256

## Reflecting...

### Scripture Readings

#### John 20:19-31

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

**Our Sermon**

Behind Locked Doors

Rev. Andrew Harris

**Anthem**

Beautiful Savior - arr. Rob Gardner

Debbie Claar and Mark Omobono

## Praying...

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Lord's Prayer**

## Offering...

### Invitation of Offering

**Offertory** Jesu, meines Lebens Leben - Friedrich Wilhelm Zachau Andrew Moore

\***Doxology** Lyrics adapted by William Abernethy; tune *NCH #780*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God for all that love has done; Creator,  
Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.**

\***Prayer of Dedication**

## Sending...

\***Closing Hymn** Yours Is the Glory, Resurrected One NCH #253

\***Benediction**

**Postlude** Prelude no. 5 in G BWV 557 - J.S. Bach Andrew Moore

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### **CHURCH VISION STATEMENT**

#### **Adopted February 2017:**

At the UCC Burlington, we cultivate a thriving environment, which empowers us to embody the beloved, diverse community that Jesus modeled for us, proclaiming that ***all are welcome, all are loved.*** We celebrate our colonial roots as we change, adapt and grow into who God is calling us to be. We respect the sanctity of each person's spiritual journey and we are blessed by the gifts that each person brings to the life of the church. We join together in faithful service and advocacy with the ongoing hope that we can make the world a better, more just, and peaceful place for everyone.

Rev. Andrew Harris, Pastor  
Aline Beck, Organist  
Deb Raymond, Director of Christian Education  
Bobbie Killilea, Administrative Assistant  
Uccburlington.org / 781-272-4547

## JOYS AND CONCERNS

Conrad Fong upcoming surgery  
Tom Killilea upcoming surgery  
Tonia Egan, her mom and dad  
Skip Glancy and sister Dorothy  
Laura Nowell's friend Mary  
Bev Maher's daughter Kim  
Barbara Naddaff's grandson, friend Mary  
Sally Willard's sister Vicky  
Anna Karwan's sister for being a  
wonderful caregiver for mom  
Rev. Cheryl Kerr's son Gabe  
Joyce Carpenter nieces Breanna,  
MaryJane and brother-in-law Ken  
Auri Musselman's sister-in-law's family  
Woody Knowles  
Donna DeSiome's sister Brenda and  
brother-in-law Rick  
Deana Tredeau's great niece Katie Wise  
Bill Livezey  
Kay Shute  
Roberta Low  
Debbie Claar's friends Victor and Bob  
Jan Blandino, her grandson Toby  
David Knowles  
Ted Brierley  
Andrew's friend Lorenzo  
Bill Hitchcock  
Karen Butler's brother-in-law Lenny  
Shirley Fong's Mom Mary  
Julie Lewis' cousin Alicia  
Shirley Garside's daughter Lynn  
Jessy McNeil's sisters Grace and Joyce  
Kelly Sievert  
Ginger Mungillo, daughter Cindy,  
son Jim  
Barbara Garland

Middle East  
Our Country  
The World  
Mother Earth

*Jan and Rob Costa donated today's altar  
flowers to celebrate their 40<sup>th</sup>  
wedding anniversary!*

## **Worship Participation – April 12**

### **Love Offering**

Pastor: Rev. Andrew Harris  
Guest Organist: Andrew Moore  
Lay Leader: Lucy Damiani  
Head Usher: Dave McNeil  
Usher: Sally Willard  
Greeter: Chris Stahlinski  
Collector: Deb Raymond  
Flowers: Jan and Rob Costa  
Nursery: Kritika Agarwala  
Sunday School: Deb Raymond  
Donna Ferro  
Coffee Host: Deb Glancy  
Bakers: Deb Glancy

## **Worship Participation – April 19**

Pastor: Rev. Andrew Harris  
Guest Organist: Aline Beck  
Lay Leader: Sally Willard  
Head Usher: Deb Glancy  
Usher: Carol Downing  
Greeter: Carol Downing  
Collector: Marge Zamanian  
Flowers:  
Nursery: Kritika Agarwala  
Sunday School: Deb Raymond  
Donna Ferro  
Coffee Host:  
Bakers:

## **April 12 Open House in Sunday**

**School!** The Sunday School and  
Nursery invite all Congregants to please  
join us after church downstairs in  
Sunday School classroom for an open  
house display about Lent and more.

## **Newcomers Luncheon-after worship today!**

All visitors, newcomers, prospective members, or long-time attendees who haven't yet officially joined the church are welcome for a Newcomers Luncheon after church in the Conference Room. Come and enjoy food and conversation as we get to know each other. We will talk about what church membership entails, what UCC Burlington believes, how it is structured, how it all works. We'll also discuss how each of us got here, because at UCC Burlington we know that the church isn't the institution or the building but the *people!* If you are curious about joining the church, or if you would just like to learn more about it, we hope you will join us on Sunday.

### **GREEN TEAM NEEDS YOUR HELP!**

For the past two years the Green Team has been trying to schedule a time to cut the invasive vines that are choking the trees between the church parking lot and parsonage. We have decided to "take action," and cut the vines after worship on April 12, 19 and 26. If you can help us on any of the dates it would be greatly appreciated. Please dress appropriately and if you have clippers or a small power saw, please bring it. We do have extras.

## **DO YOU HAVE A STORY TO SHARE DURING WORSHIP ON MOTHER'S DAY?**



For Mother's Day this year, we are recruiting members of our church to share a short story about moms and faith. Do you have a story about your mother to share? Do you have a story about being a mother? Do you have a story about being a mother figure? Or perhaps about someone who showed you a mother's love, whether they were your biological mother or not?

If you think you might have a brief story to share about the way God's love is revealed to us through motherhood, please let Andrew know! We'd love for you to share your story during worship. Call the church or email [andrew@uccburlington.org](mailto:andrew@uccburlington.org)

### **CRAFTING FOR A CAUSE**

We are busy making prayer shawls and prayers squares. Weather permitting, we will meet every Thursday at 1PM in the conference room. All are welcome!

### **WISH PROJECT-CHELMSFORD**

The Wish Project is looking ahead and wants only spring and summer clothing now. The bin will be back under the hall coat rack this week.

**PLANT AND CRAFT SALE  
MAY 9 10-2PM**



Perennials, Annuals, and Baked Goods donations are needed for the Plant Sale. Please drop off your labeled donations on Friday, 5/8 by 2pm. We will also need volunteers on the day of the sale - signups will be at coffee hour. Thank you!

*Come Shop Just in Time for  
Mother's Day!*

**EASTER PLANTS GIVEN IN MEMORY/CELEBRATION/HONOR OF:**

Aline Beck	Loved Ones
Karen and Richard Butler	Loved Ones
Carpenter Family	Bob Carpenter and our many Loved Ones
Jan and Rob Costa	Loving memory of Bud Valcourt
Lucy Damiani	Loved Ones
Carol Downing	Ron Downing
Eby Family	In memory of Loved Ones
Ferro-Glancy Families	Beloved Family Members
Garside Family	Husband/Father Fred-Son/Brother Tim
Shirley and Conrad Fong	Family, Friends, Loved Ones
Killilea Family	Family, Friends, Loved Ones and my Church Family
Marilyn Langley	MaryAnne and Bill Margone (brother/sister-in-law)
Kari Lynch	My wonderful mom, Marilyn
Roy G. Nyren	Nancy J. Nyren
Omobono Family	Loved Ones
Ruth Pilote	Donald Pilote
Raymond Family	Jane and all our Family Members
Marcia Rich	All the hard workers for our Church
Stahlinski Family	Loved Ones
Lynn Tirrell and Family	Memory of Loved Ones
Nancy Todd	Loved Ones
Tredeau Family	Steve, Mere and Jim
Marjorie Zamanian	Loved Ones
Joan Zink	Jennifer DeSario

# These Things Did Thomas Count

254

Thomas H. Troeger, 1984

John 20:19-31

1 These things did Thom - as count as real: the warmth of  
2 The vi - sion of his skep - tic mind was keen e -  
3 His rea - soned cer - tain - ties de - nied that one could  
4 May we, O God, by grace be - lieve and thus the

blood, the chill of steel, The grain of wood, the heft of  
nough to make him blind To an - y un - ex - pect - ed  
live when one had died, Un - til his fin - gers read like  
ris - en Christ re - ceive, Whose raw, im - print - ed palms reached

stone, the last frail twitch of flesh and bone.  
act too large for his small world of fact.  
Braille the mark - ings of the spear and nail.  
out and beck - oned Thom - as from his doubt.

*The author cites his "reading of twentieth-century theology and its coming to terms with the limits of the enlightenment and rational cognition" as the foundational thought for this text.*

Tune: DISTRESS L.M.  
The Sacred Harp, 1844  
Arr. Jonathan McNair, 1993

## We Live by Faith and Not by Sight

256

Henry Alford, 1844; alt.

John 20:24-29

Unison

1 We live by faith and not by sight;  
 2 We may not touch Christ's hands and side,  
 3 Help then, O Christ, our un - be - lief;  
 4 That, when our life of faith is done,

no gra - cious words we hear From Christ who spoke as  
 nor fol - low where Christ trod; But in con - fess - ing  
 and may our faith a - bound To call on you when  
 in realms of clear - er light We may be - hold you

none e'er spoke, who still we know is near.  
 we re - joice: our Sav - ior and our God!  
 you are near and seek where you are found:  
 as you are, with full and end - less sight.

*As dean of Canterbury, Henry Alford exemplified ecumenism by working closely with non-Anglican groups. He promoted New Testament scholarship with his famous commentary on the Greek New Testament, one of fifty books he published during his lifetime.*

Tune: DUNLAP'S CREEK C.M.  
 Samuel McFarland, c. 1816  
 Harm. Richard Proulx, 1986

# A toi la gloire, ô Ressuscité!

(Yours Is the Glory, Resurrected One!)

Matt. 28:1-10; John 20:19-29; 1 Cor. 15:54-55

Edmond L. Budry, 1904

Transl. The New Century Hymnal, 1993

1 A toi la gloi - re, ô Res - sus - ci - té! A toi la vic - toi - re,  
 1 Yours is the glo - ry, Res - ur - rect - ed One! End - less is the vic - tory  
 2 See, it is Je - sus, Je - sus has ap - peared; do not doubt at all for  
 3 Am I still fright - ened? One whom I a - dore, Je - sus, lives a - gain, gives

pour l'é - ter - ni - té! Bril - lant de lu - miè - re, l'ange est de - scen -  
 you o'er death have won. An - gels clothed in ra - diance rolled the stone a -  
 noth - ing you will fear. Let the church with glad - ness hymns of tri - umph  
 peace for - ev - er - more. Je - sus is my vic - tory, life and strength and

du, il rou - le la pier - re du tom - beau vain - cu.  
 way; con - quered is the grave in which your bod - y lay.  
 sing; tell it with - out ceas - ing: Death has lost its sting.  
 Head; Je - sus is my glo - ry, noth - ing shall I dread.

### Refrain

A toi la gloi - re, ô Res - sus - ci - té!  
 Yours is the glo - ry, Res - ur - rect - ed One!

A toi la vic - toi - re, pour l'é - ter - ni - té!  
 End - less is the vic - tory you o'er death have won.